# ESA: Summary of Farmer Engagement and Participation in Africa RISING

# Post-harvest research team – Abass Adebayo

## Babati District, Tanzania

* Post-harvest research team work in 3 villages in Babati – Long, Sabilo and Seloto
* They work with a total of 193 farmers (65 farmers in Long village, 65 farmers in Seloto village and 63 farmers in Sabilo village)
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of 16 hours per week of their time in project related activities
* Labour??
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. The best time for harvesting
2. Proper drying, shelling and storage of grain crops using hermetic bags

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* Post-harvest research team doesn’t offer the farmers seeds, fertilizer or cash
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. **Post-harvest trainings** (on grains proper harvesting, transport, drying and storage) exposed to, collapsible case for drying, shelling machines and hermetic bags for storage
2. **Product development trainings** on malnutrition (cause, effects, prevention etc.) how to prepare high protein and nutritious dishes for vulnerable groups and other family members to improve their health status
3. **Attending and participating Farmers Field Days**

* **Farmer selection criteria:** Farmers with the ability to get instruction and learning materials and use it with minimum supervision.

## Kongwa & Kiteto Districts, Tanzania

* Post-harvest research team work in 4 villages in Kongwa and Kiteto Districts – Ndurungumi, Vihingo, Kiperesa and Ngipa
* They work with a total of 120 farmers (40 farmers in Ndurungumi village, 37 farmers in Vihingo village, 24 farmers in Kiperesa village and 19 farmers in Ngipa village
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of 14 hours per week of their time in project related activities
* Labour?
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. The best time for harvesting
2. Proper drying, shelling and storage of grain crops using hermetic bags

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* Post-harvest research team doesn’t offer the farmers seeds, fertilizer or cash
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. **Post-harvest trainings** (on grains proper harvesting, transport, drying and storage) exposed to, collapsible case for drying, shelling machines and hermetic bags for storage
2. **Product development trainings** on malnutrition (cause, effects, prevention etc.) how to prepare high protein and nutritious dishes for vulnerable groups and other family members to improve their health status
3. **Attending and participating Farmers Field Days**

* **Farmer selection criteria:** Farmers with the ability to get instruction and learning materials and use it with minimum supervision.

# Crop Management Efficiency research team – Job Kihara

## Babati District, Tanzania

* The crop management efficiency research team works in 4 villages in Babati District – Seloto, Long, Sabillo and Hallu
* They work with a total of 13 farmers (4 farmers in Seloto village, 3 farmers in Long village, 3 farmers in Sabilo village and 3 farmers in Hallu village)
* Total land contributed by farmers to the crop management efficiency research trials is 13 acres (4 acres in Seloto village, 3 acres in Long village, 3 acres in Sabilo village and 3 acres in Hallu village)
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of 2 hours per week of their time in project related activities
* Only 1 person in a household is usually involved in the maintenance of research trials
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Planting time
2. Weeding time

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* The project team provides seeds and fertilizer to the farmers (in November and December)
* No cash is given to the farmers by the team
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. Farmers keep the yield
2. Farmers are trained on good agronomic practices

* **Farmer selection criteria:** Uniform/homogenous field, cooperation

# Management of maize leaf necrosis disease – Bright Jumbo

## Babati District, Tanzania

* The research team works in 3 villages in Babati District - Seloto, Matufa and Mara Estate
* They work with a total of 15 farmers (10 in Seloto village and 5 in Matufa village; the land in Mara Estate was contributed by Suba Agro Seed Company and it managed by farm workers)
* Total land contributed by farmers to the management of maize leaf necrosis research trials is ??
* The farmers spend little time on the trials. The project gives money to the farmers to hire laborers for weeding, harvesting, etc.
* Not all labour for maintenance of the trials come from the farmers household, most of it is outsourced. The farmer engages about 10 people who are paid (with money from the project) to help manage the trials. Labour for the Mara Estate trial site is fully by farm workers of the estate.
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Harvesting time

* Farmers also attend field days
* The project team provides seeds and fertilizer to the farmers
* The project team also gives the farmers cash to hire laborers for weeding, harvesting, etc.
* Farmers get to keep the yields as the extra benefit
* **Farmer selection criteria:** Selection of farmers for the MLN trials is based on MLN occurrence. Trials are set up in MLN hotspots. The research team asks for farms where the farmers experienced MLN in the previous cropping season.

# Kongwa and Kiteto District – Patrick Okori

* The research team works in 5 villages in Kongwa and Kiteto Districts - Malai, Laikala, Moleti, Chitego and Njoro
* They work with a total of 1,098 farmers ( 348 in Malai village, 250 in Laikala village, 208 in Moleti village, 133 in Chitego village and 159 in Njoro village)
* Total land contributed by farmers to the research trials is 653.1 acres (160.6 acres in Malai village, 225.6 acres in Laikala village, 148 acres in Moleti village, 49 acres in Chitego village and 69 acres in Njoro village)
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of 10 hours per week of their time in project related activities
* Only 1 person in a household is usually involved in the maintenance of research trials
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Planting time
2. Variety selection
3. Weeding schedules

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* The project team provides seeds (at baby and mother stage) and fertilizer (as part of R&D and at the mother stage of experimentations and for selected demonstrations)
* No cash is given to the farmers by the team
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. Farmers keep the yield (grain and seed of OPVs)
2. Lead farmers invited to innovation platform meetings
3. Social recognition for lead farmers
4. Lead farmers have accesses released but not available pearl millet and bambara nuts
5. Hosting farmers get access to fodder banks (Gliricidia seedlings and become learning points for other farmers as well as technologies such as erosion control structures
6. Farmers are trained on good agronomic practices

* **Farmer selection criteria:**

1. Accessibility (near roads)
2. Willingness to participate and manage experiments
3. Willingness to share and teach others
4. Open to visitors

# Malawi – Regis Chikowo

## Dedza District

* The research team works in 2 Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) – Nsipe and Kandeu
* They work with a total of 615 farmers (224 farmers in Nsipe EPA and 391 farmers in Kandeu EPA)
* Total land contributed by farmers to the research trials is 91.1 acres (33.2 acres in Nsipe EPA and 57.9 acres in Kandeu EPA)
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of 1 hour per week of their time in project related activities
* 2-3 people in a household are usually involved in the maintenance of research trials
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Planting time
2. Weeding time
3. When to harvest
4. Reporting insects/diseases to extension and researchers

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* In Nsipe, the project team provides grain legume seeds, but not maize seeds. While in Kandeu they provide both grain legume and maize seeds
* Fertilizer is only provided for mother trials
* No cash is given to the farmers by the team
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. Farmers keep all crop harvests from both mother and baby trials,
2. Farmers are trained on good agronomic practices
3. Enhanced interaction with extension and researchers,
4. Receive up to date information
5. Attend field days and share knowledge

* **Farmer selection criteria:** ??

## Dedza District

* The research team works in 2 Extension Planning Areas (EPA’s) – Linthipe and Golomoti
* They work with a total of 691 farmers (455 in Linthipe EPA and 236 in Golomoti EPA)
* Total land contributed by farmers to the research trials is 102.3 acres (67.4 acres in Linthipe and 34.9 acres in Golomoti)
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of 1 hour per week of their time to project related activities
* 1-2 people in a household are usually involved in the maintenance of research trials
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Planting time
2. Weeding time
3. When to harvest
4. Reporting insects/diseases to extension and researchers

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* The project team provides both grain legume and maize seeds to farmers
* Fertilizer is only provided for mother trials
* No cash is given to the farmers by the team
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. Farmers keep all crop harvests from both mother and baby trials,
2. Farmers are trained on good agronomic practices
3. Enhanced interaction with extension and researchers,
4. Receive up to date information
5. Attend field days and share knowledge

* **Farmer selection criteria:** ??

# WA: Summary of Farmer Engagement and Participation in Africa RISING

# Ghana – Asamoah Larbi

## Northern Region

* The research team works in 3 districts – Salvelugu, Tolon and Kambungu
* In the 3 districts, the team works in 5 intervention communities in Salvelugu (Jana, Duko, Botingli, Kpallung, Tibali) and 5 in Tolon/Kambungu (Chiyohi No.2, Tingoli, Gbanjong, Tibogunayili and Kprim)
* They work with a total of 595 farmers
* Total land contributed by farmers to the research trials is 326.5 acres
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of between 9.2 – 10.9 hours per week of their time on project related activities
* 2 people in a household are usually involved in the maintenance of research trials
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Baby and scaling up trials
2. Type of crop to be grown - legume or cereal
3. Land preparation
4. Planting time
5. Weeding
6. Fertilizer application
7. Harvesting
8. Storage

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* Farmers are provided with seeds and fertilizers
* No cash is given to the farmers by the team
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. Keep yields
2. Hands-on training on fertilizer application
3. Handling of agro-chemicals
4. Participation in field days
5. Social-capital

* **Farmer selection criteria:** Farmers joined based on their interest and resources

## Upper West Region

* The research team works in 2 districts – Nadowli and Wa West
* In the 2 districts, the team works in 5 intervention communities in Nadowli (Zanko, Guo, Siriryiri, Nyagli and Passe) and 5 in Wa West (Goriyili, Goli, Natorduori, Gyilli and Papu)
* They work with a total of 467 farmers
* Total land contributed by farmers to the research trials is 336 acres
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of between 6 – 9 hours per week of their time on project related activities
* 2 people in a household are usually involved in the maintenance of research trials
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Baby and scaling up trials
2. Type of crop to be grown - legume or cereal
3. Land preparation
4. Planting time
5. Weeding
6. Fertilizer application
7. Harvesting
8. Storage

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* Farmers are provided with seeds and fertilizers
* No cash is given to the farmers by the team
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. Keep yields
2. Hands-on training on fertilizer application
3. Handling of agro-chemicals
4. Participation in field days
5. Social-capital

* **Farmer selection criteria:** Farmers joined based on their interest and resources

## Upper East Region

* The research team works in 2 districts – Kassena Nankana and Bongo
* In the 2 districts, the team works in 4 intervention communities in Kassena Nankana (Bonia, Gia, Nyangua and Tekuru) and 1 in Bongo (Samboligu)
* They work with a total of 547 farmers
* Total land contributed by farmers to the research trials is 350 acres
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of between 7 – 9 hours per week of their time on project related activities
* 2 people in a household are usually involved in the maintenance of research trials
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Baby and scaling up trials
2. Type of crop to be grown - legume or cereal
3. Land preparation
4. Planting time
5. Weeding
6. Fertilizer application
7. Harvesting
8. Storage

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* Farmers are provided with seeds and fertilizers
* No cash is given to the farmers by the team
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. Keep yields
2. Hands-on training on fertilizer application
3. Handling of agro-chemicals
4. Participation in field days
5. Social-capital

* **Farmer selection criteria:** Farmers joined based on their interest and resources

# Mali - Birhanu Zemadim

* The research team works in 3 districts – Bougouni, Koutiala and Yanfolila
* In the 3 districts, the team works in 4 intervention villages in Bougouni (Flola, Dieba,Madina and Sibirila), 5 in Koutiala (M'Pessoba, N'Golonianasso, Zanzoni, Sirakele and Nampossela ) and 1 in Yanfolila (Yorobougoula)
* They work with a total of 1,371 farmers (excluding farmers involved in nutrition trainings in M’pessoba and Sirakele)
* Total land contributed by farmers to the research trials is 425 acres
* According to the team’s estimation, each farmer gives an average of between 8 - 10 hours per week of their time on project related activities
* 5 people in a household are usually involved in the maintenance of research trials
* Farmers take lead in making decisions about:

1. Variety selection
2. Planting time
3. Training date
4. Input into trial design and crop prioritization
5. Farmer's cooperative (Association Villageoise)
6. Engage to take care (irrigation and cleaning) of planted trees

* Farmers also attend project related meetings when invited
* Farmers are provided with seeds , Fruit tree species, leafy vegetable tree species
* Farmers are also given fertilizer after sowing
* Cash is given to the farmers by the team for purchasing seeds and fertilizer for the trial if the project cannot provide them
* Farmers get the following extra-benefits:

1. Keeps yields
2. Access to purchase additional seed of improved varieties
3. Support to individual farmers trainings (FFS)
4. Training on nutrition
5. Capacity building (IP)
6. Use of vegetable and fodder for human nutrition and animal feeding
7. Training in plant propagation, planting and management techniques

* **Farmer selection criteria:** Animateurs invite farmers (men and women) they think will be able to manage trials well, farmers self-select into trial types voluntarily. Farmer engagement was based on gender equity.

# Farmer engagement through R4D platforms

## Babati R4D platform

* Until now, the R4D platform activities have been largely research-driven, as the incentive has been strongest for Africa RISING to make things happen. Still, Africa RISING have conducted other activities which may as well be coordinated as platform activities. These activities include:

1. Feedback meetings with farmers and local communities,
2. Training sessions with stakeholders on particular technologies, etc.

* There are farmer representatives in the platform management team to contribute to decisions and represent farmers interests in platforms deliberations

## Kongwa Kiteto Innovation Platform

* Farmers have the highest representation at the innovation platform hence have a very strong “voice” in the decisions taken by the platform
* Farmers generate the research agenda based on the most pressing challenges being faced by the farmers
* Innovation platform provides opportunity for farmers to share experiences with fellow farmers on how to increase productivity

## Malawi

* Farmer representatives are part of the R4D platform at the Extension Planning Area (EPA) level
* Trainings done for farmers e.g. on held one last year on nutrition and local level value of grain legumes

## Ghana

* Farmers are part of the R4D platforms at community and district levels and participate in prioritization of the plan
* The platforms facilitate farmer experimentation
* Link farmers to input and output markets
* Farmers from the community-level platforms establish and manage the baby and demonstration (scaling-out) trials
* The platforms provide land and labor for the trials; assist with Farmers’ Field Days and farmer-to-farmer dissemination of information.

## Mali

* Farmers are part of the R4D platforms at the cercle and commune level
* Farmers are quite involved in the process of priority setting for the R4D platform